valuable contributions to the cartography of the region. Four appendices contain notes on the maps and tables of barometric and trigonometric measurements by the author, and petrographical and palæontological notes on his specimens by Petersen and Schellwien. M. K. G.

**Excursions and Lessons in Home Geography. By Charles A. McMurry.** pp. xl + 152. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1904.

This little volume of suggestions as to the way of conducting work in home geography is one of a series for teachers, dealing with the different subjects of the elementary school. It has been preceded by a book on the method of teaching geography in the elementary schools, and will soon be followed by one or more books on the teaching of certain selected topics in geography in the upper grammar grades.

The book includes suggestions as to the observational study of local scenery in different parts of the country, of industrial geography as represented in the processes to be seen in shops and factories, of certain commercial topics, of the features of agriculture and dairying, and of government.

The author is a most successful teacher, and has tested his ideas by long practice. Yet the suggestions do not contribute to the cause of better geography teaching, for the reason that too much is included which even a liberal interpretation of "the study of the earth in its relation to man" will not allow us to call geography. A topic, to be geographical, must present clearly the geographical or earth-background to the human activities and operations which can be studied in a given region. The technical details of industries and the processes of city government are hardly geography, unless the reasons for the establishment of the given industry at a given place are clearly brought out, and the reasons, from the earth standpoint, for certain forms of government are given as a basis for details.

The book is well illustrated, and it offers many suggestions to teachers whether they agree with the geography or not. Often, however, these suggestions are of a kind that cannot be easily adapted to other places, and the work, as a whole, will not fit the ordinary school course of study in home geography.

The author deserves great credit for his insistence upon the teaching of geography from real things, and the advantage of excursions with young pupils. All phases of geography teaching need to be illustrated in the field and, of all phases, home geography suffers the most from being based on words, and not on things. So many teachers distrust their own powers in the conduct of excursions that it is good for them to see how easily excursions can be conducted and to have this shown, not by a theorizer, but by one who has done all that he outlines as possible for beginners.

R. E. D.

**Physiography—An Introduction to the Study of Nature. By T. H. Huxley, revised and rewritten by R. A. Gregory.** pp. xl + 423. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1904.

A new edition of Huxley's classic Physiography is a welcome edition to the available literature for schools and general reading. There are few books on elementary physiography that even approach the original edition of this volume in smoothness and clearness, and surely no book that an enthusiast reads with more pleasure. The author of the revised edition acknowledges that the task of revision has been a hard one, but it has been well done. The general order has been retained, the text has been changed but very little, and the result is a book of more general adaptability than the original.